



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5

77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

JUL 31 2000

SE-5J

VIA FACSIMILE AND U. S. MAIL

Mr. Jay Scheid
Director of Risk Management
Chicago Tribune
435 North Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60611



Re: Walkover Survey of Parking Lot at 201 East Illinois Street

Dear Mr. Scheid:

As you may be aware, U.S. EPA is investigating the disposal of radioactive material from the Lindsay Light and Chemical Company (Lindsay Light) thorium mantle manufacturing plant at 316 E. Illinois. Part of this investigation includes conducting radiological surveys of certain properties in the area. Your property is one to which U.S. EPA is seeking access to conduct a radiological survey since it is directly south of a property that has had approximately 10,000 tons of thorium-impacted soils excavated from it and is still ongoing. We realize that your parking lot is currently in operation and would therefore be willing to conduct the survey during off-peak hours that are convenient for you. We anticipate that a walkover survey would take no more than four to six hours. Enclosed with this letter is a form allowing U.S. EPA access to conduct a walkover radiation survey of your parking lot. Also, enclosed are copies of U.S. EPA's Lindsay Light Fact Sheets which explain the detailed history of Lindsay Light and cleanup activities conducted.

In summary, from 1910 until approximately 1932, Lindsay Light refined thorium containing ores and manufactured incandescent mantles for residential and commercial building lights at 316 E. Illinois. The gas mantle manufacturing involved dipping gauze mantle bags into solutions containing radioactive thorium. This former manufacturing site that is bounded by Columbus, Grand, McClurg Court, and Illinois is known as the Lindsay Light II site. (It is called Lindsay Light II because the original facility and main offices were located at 161 East Grand.) Presently, Kerr-McGee Chemical L.L.C., River East L.L.C. and Grand Pier L.L.C. are completing removal actions at the Lindsay Light II site pursuant to a U.S. EPA administrative order issued under the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act ("CERCLA" or more commonly known as "Superfund").

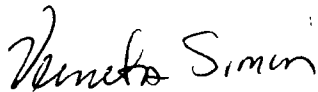
U.S. EPA believes it is possible that radioactive materials from the Lindsay Light operations or demolition may have been placed onto your property. Asphalt and concrete effectively shield the gamma radiation from this material, if the asphalt and concrete are removed during development activities there may be a potential threat to human health and the environment.

If you have conducted an environmental assessment of the parking lot, provide us with a copy of that environmental assessment, whether or not it includes a radiological assessment. Such data would add to our understanding of the area. We also would be interested in copies of any geotechnical boring information you may have relative to this site.

The enclosed consent for access provides U.S. EPA and its representatives access to your property to conduct radiation surveillance and sampling. Please sign this consent for access and return it to us as soon as possible. Note that this consent is for access for a radiation walk or and sampling purposes only. If access is required for other purposes, a broader access agreement will be necessary.

Please contact either myself at (312) 886-3601 or Fred Micke, On-Scene Coordinator at (312) 886 - 5123, if there is additional information we can provide to you. Please direct legal matters to Mary Fulghum, Associate Regional Counsel, at (312) 886-4683.

Sincerely,



Verneta Simon.
On-Scene Coordinator

Enclosures:

1. Fact Sheet dated April 2000
2. Fact Sheet dated May 2000
3. Fact Sheet dated June 2000
4. Consent for Access Form

CONSENT FOR ACCESS TO PROPERTY

Name: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Address of Property: 201 East Illinois Street
Chicago, Illinois

I consent to officers, employees, contractors, and authorized representatives of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) entering and having continued access to this property to conduct a walkover radiation survey and sampling on the property.

I realize that these actions taken by U.S. EPA are undertaken pursuant to its response and enforcement responsibilities under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9601-9601-9675 (1997).

This written permission is given by me voluntarily, on behalf of myself and all other co-owners of this property, with knowledge of my right to refuse and without threats or promises of any kind.

Date

Signature

bcc: Jose DeLeon, C-14J, w/o enclosures
Mary Fulghum , C-14J, w/o enclosures
Larry Jensen, SE-5J, w/o enclosures
Fred Micke, SE-5J, w/o enclosures
Linda Nachowicz, SE-5J, w/o enclosures
Debbie Regel, SE-5J, w/o enclosures

*** TRANSMISSION REPORT ***

JUL-31-00 09:59 ID:

JOB NUMBER 278
INFORMATION CODE OK
TELEPHONE NUMBER 92225189
NAME(ID NUMBER)
START TIME JUL-31-00 09:54
PAGES TRANSMITTED 011 TRANSMISSION MODE EMMR
RESOLUTION FINE REDIALING TIMES 00
SECURITY OFF MAILBOX OFF
MACHINE ENGAGED 05'02

THIS TRANSMISSION IS COMPLETED.

LAST SUCCESSFUL PAGE 011

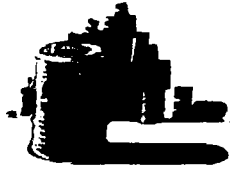


UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
EMERGENCY RESPONSE BRANCH
Mail Code: SE-5J

FACSIMILE COVER PAGE

PHONE: (312) 353-2318
FAX: (312) 353-9176

DATE: 7/31/00
TO: Jay Scheid
ORGANIZATION: Chicago Tribune
FAX NUMBER: (312) 222-5189
FROM: VERNETA Simon
SUBJECT: Parking Lot @ 201 East Illinois
NUMBER OF PAGES TO FOLLOW (INCLUDING COVER SHEET): 11
MESSAGE:



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